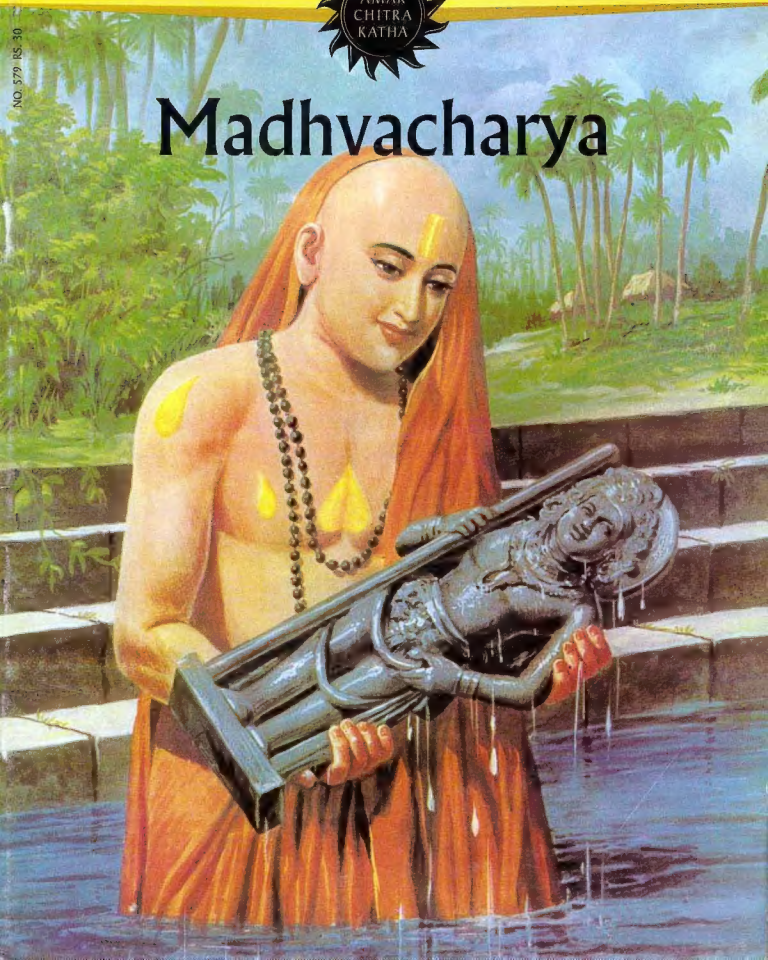




NO. 579 RS. 30

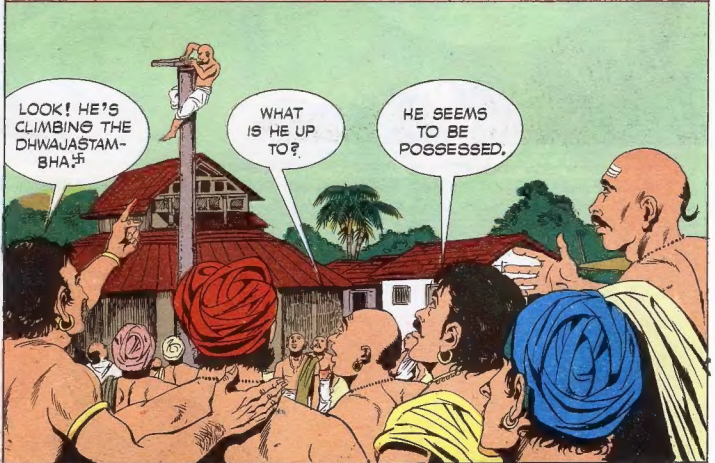
Madhvacharya



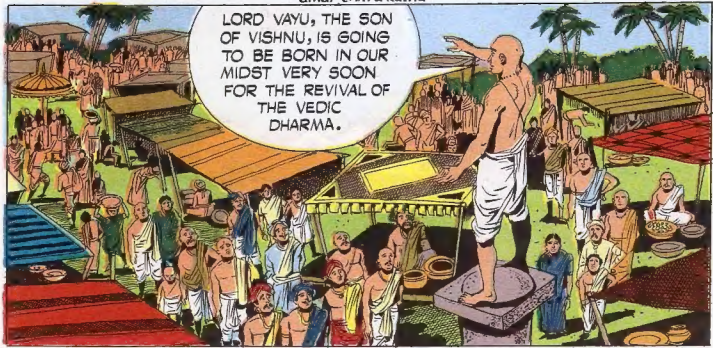
MADHVACHARYA



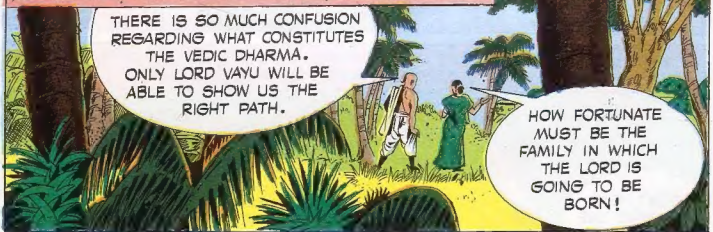
A VAST NUMBER OF DEVOTEES HAD GATHERED AT THE ANCIENT TEMPLE OF ANANTESHWARA IN UDUPI * FOR THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL. SUDDENLY—



* A COASTAL TOWN OF KARNATAKA 卐 FLAGPOST IN FRONT OF A TEMPLE



ONE OF THE DEVOTEES, NARAYANA BHAT, TALKED ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO HIS WIFE AS THEY RETURNED TO THEIR VILLAGE, PAJAKAK'SHETRA *



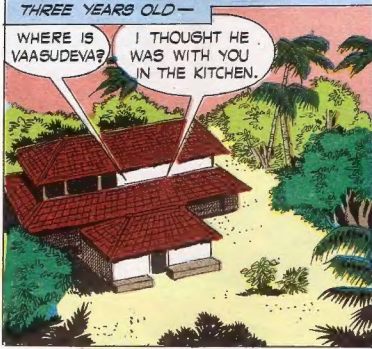
LATER, WHEN A SON WAS BORN TO THEM, ON THE AUSPICIOUS DAY OF DASSERA IN THE YEAR 1238 A.D., LITTLE DID THEY REALISE THAT THEY WERE THE CHOSEN FAMILY. ON THE TWELFTH DAY, THE BABY'S NAMING CEREMONY WAS HELD AND HE WAS GIVEN THE NAME VAASUDEVA.



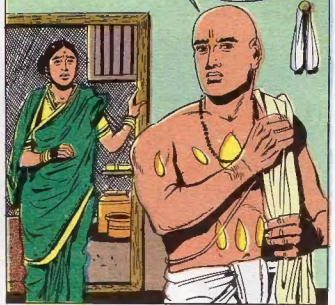
ONCE WHEN VAASUDEVA WAS BARELY
THREE YEARS OLD —

WHERE IS
VAASUDEVA?

I THOUGHT HE
WAS WITH YOU
IN THE KITCHEN.

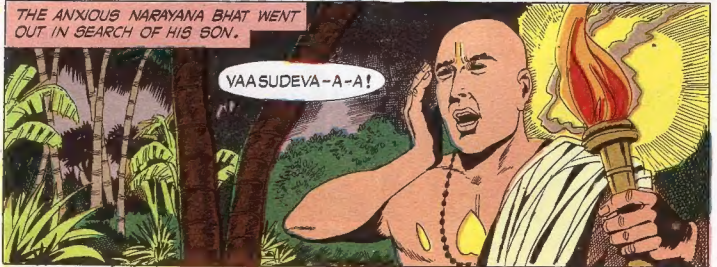


WAIT HERE. I'LL GO
OUT AND LOOK
FOR HIM.



THE ANXIOUS NARAYANA BHAT WENT
OUT IN SEARCH OF HIS SON.

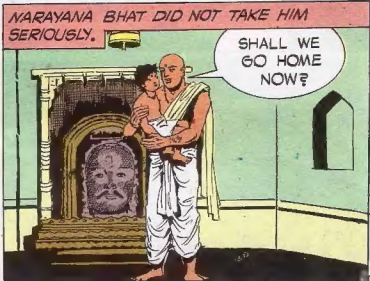
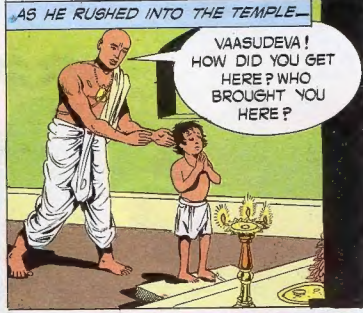
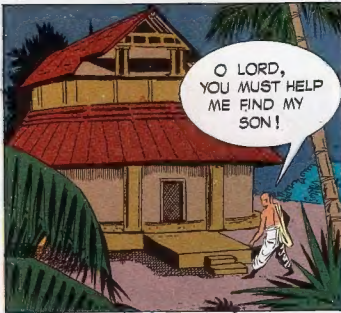
VAASUDEVA-A-A!



HE WALKED AS FAR AS THE TEMPLE OF ANANTESHWARA BUT THERE WAS NO TRACE
OF THE TODDLER.

WHAT SHALL
I DO? WHERE
SHALL I LOOK
FOR HIM?





ON ANOTHER OCCASION, TWO YEARS LATER, HIS MOTHER TOOK HIM TO A RELIGIOUS DISCOURSE. VAASUDEVA SAT LISTENING, INTENTLY. SUDDENLY—



AND HE GAVE THE CORRECT INTERPRETATION.



MY CHILD, YOUR LOVE OF TRUTH AND YOUR COURAGE TO STAND UP FOR IT MARK YOU OUT AS A GREAT SOUL.

NOT ONLY WAS VAASUDEVA GIFTED WITH SPIRITUAL INSIGHT BUT HE WAS ENDOWED WITH MIRACULOUS POWERS TOO. ONE MORNING—



KAKRA SHETTY HAS BEEN VERY PATIENT. BUT I CANNOT MAKE HIM WAIT ANY LONGER. I MUST GIVE HIM THE MONEY TODAY. SOMEHOW! ANYHOW!

HE LOOKS WORRIED. I WONDER WHAT'S TROUBLING HIM.

THAT AFTERNOON—

YES, MOTHER.

VAASUDEVA, PLEASE TELL YOUR FATHER, LUNCH IS READY.

HE STILL HASN'T RETURNED.

I'LL GO OUT AND LOOK FOR HIM.

AS VAASUDEVA CAME OUT, HE SAW A MAN.

THE MAN WAS NONE OTHER THAN KAKRA SHETTY.



CAN I
DO ANYTHING
FOR YOU,
SIR?

YOUR
FATHER OWES
ME MONEY. I
HAVE COME TO
COLLECT IT.



OH! PLEASE
WAIT. I'LL
BRING YOU
THE MONEY.

VAASUDEVA WENT TO THE GARDEN AND PICKED UP A FEW DRY TAMARIND SEEDS.



HE CAME BACK AND PLACED THEM
IN THE OUTSTRETCHED PALMS OF THE
CREDITOR.



LO! THEY WERE ALL GOLD COINS.

THERE'S FAR
MORE HERE THAN
I LENT YOUR
FATHER.



KEEP IT,
SIR, FOR YOUR
KINDNESS AND
YOUR PATIENCE.

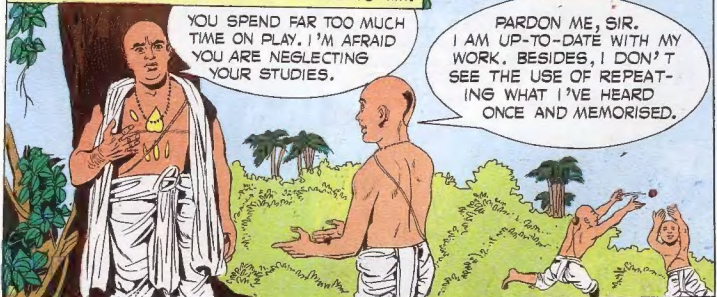
SOON IT WAS TIME FOR VAASUDEVA TO BEGIN HIS FORMAL EDUCATION. HE WAS INVESTED WITH THE SACRED THREAD AND SENT TO THE GURUKULA* OF TOTANTILLAYA.



VAASUDEVA WAS GOOD AT HIS VEDIC STUDIES. BUT TOTANTILLAYA WAS NOT QUITE HAPPY WITH HIM.

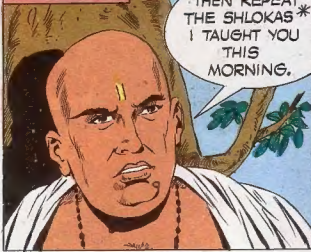


HE CALLED VAASUDEVA ASIDE AND SPOKE TO HIM.



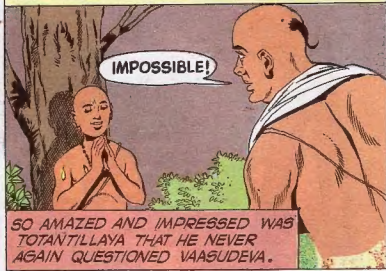
* ABODE OF THE TEACHER WHERE THE STUDENTS STAYED AND STUDIED

TOTANTILLAYA WAS ENRAGED BY WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS THE BOY'S VAIN BOAST.



THEN REPEAT THE SHLOKAS* I TAUGHT YOU THIS MORNING.

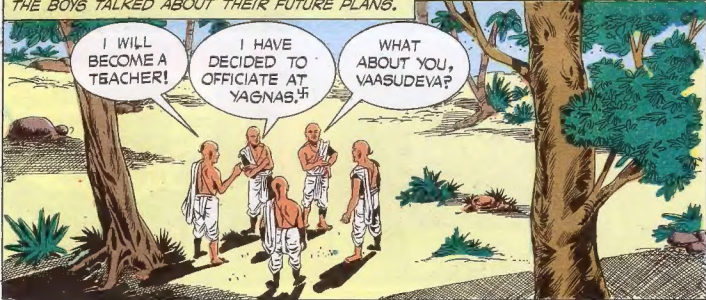
VAASUDEVA REPEATED NOT ONLY THOSE BUT ALSO MANY SUCCEEDING SHLOKAS.



IMPOSSIBLE!

SO AMAZED AND IMPRESSED WAS TOTANTILLAYA THAT HE NEVER AGAIN QUESTIONED VAASUDEVA.

THE YEARS ROLLED BY. AS THE END OF THEIR STAY AT THE GURUKULA DREW NEAR, THE BOYS TALKED ABOUT THEIR FUTURE PLANS.



I WILL BECOME A TEACHER!

I HAVE DECIDED TO OFFICIATE AT YAGNAS.†

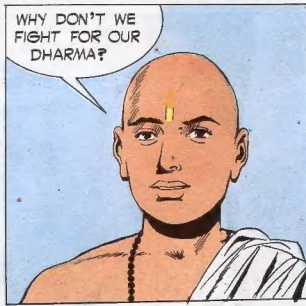
WHAT ABOUT YOU, VAASUDEVA?

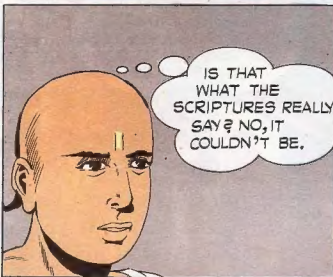
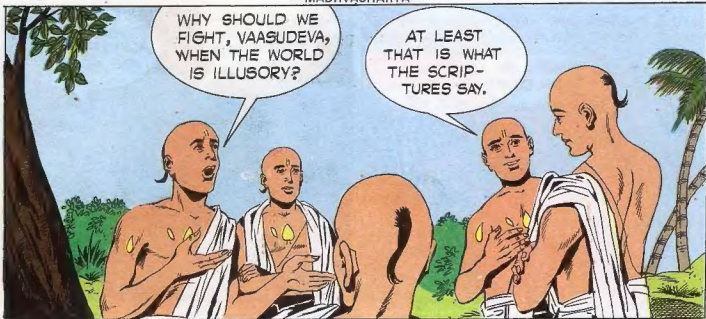
VAASUDEVA SMILED.

WE CAN RUN SCHOOLS AND PERFORM SACRIFICES ONLY IF OUR RELIGION SURVIVES THE ONSLAUGHTS OF HOSTILE ALIENS.

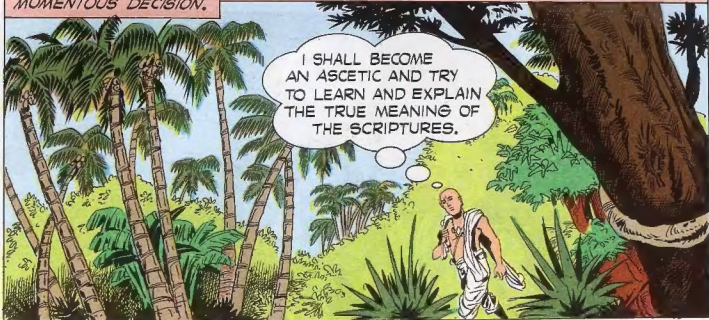


WHY DON'T WE FIGHT FOR OUR DHARMA?





ON HIS WAY HOME, AFTER THE COMPLETION OF HIS STUDIES, VAASUDEVA MADE A MOMENTOUS DECISION.



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED, HE WOULD OFTEN DISAPPEAR FROM HOME FOR HOURS AT A TIME.

WHERE IS VAASUDEVA?

HE HAS GONE OUT.

THAT EVENING—

WHERE WERE YOU?

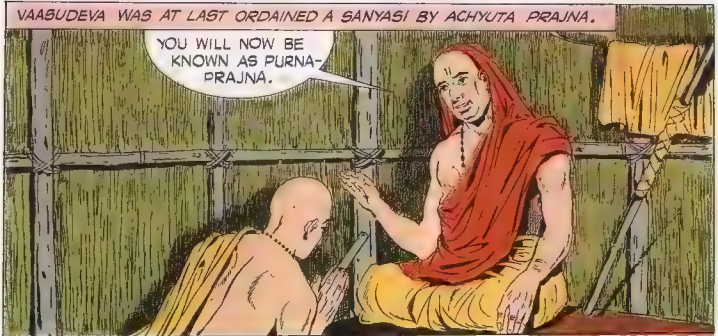
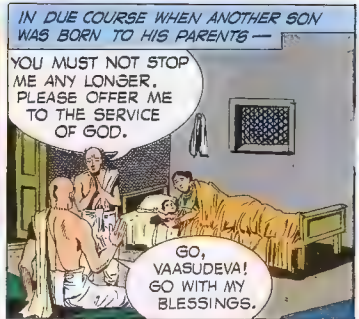
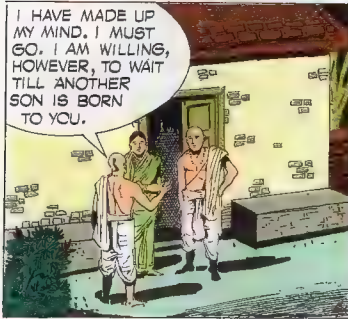
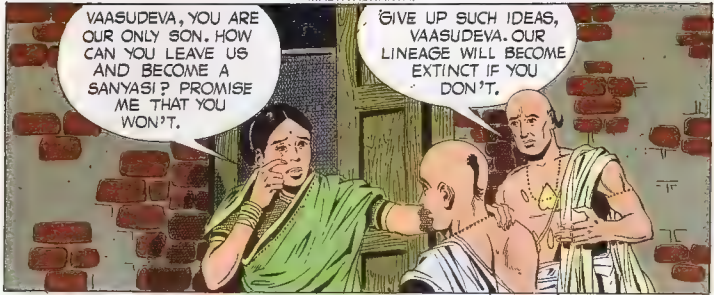
WITH
ACHYUTA PRAJNA,
THE ASCETIC.

VAASUDEVA HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN UNUSUAL CHILD. WHAT IF HE LEAVES US AND DECIDES TO BECOME AN ASCETIC? IT WOULD BREAK HIS MOTHER'S HEART.

MY SON, SOME DAY YOU WILL MARRY AND LEAD THE LIFE OF A HOUSEHOLDER. WHAT HAVE YOU TO DO WITH ASCETICS?

I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO MARRY. I WOULD LIKE TO RENOUNCE THE WORLD. PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR BLESSINGS.

NO! NO!
VAASUDEVA!



AND PURNAPRAJNA SAT BEFORE HIS GURU.

THE SUPREME
BRAHMAN IS THE
ONLY REALITY.

BUT
SIR...

TO ACHYUTA PRAJNA'S AMAZEMENT, THE YOUNG DISCIPLE RAISED MANY
SERIOUS AND VALID QUERIES, WHICH HE COULD NOT ANSWER.

SOON AFTER THAT, TWO RENOWNED SCHOLARS CAME TO UDUPI.

WE HAVE COME TO
HAVE A DISPUTATION
WITH THE SCHOLARS
HERE.

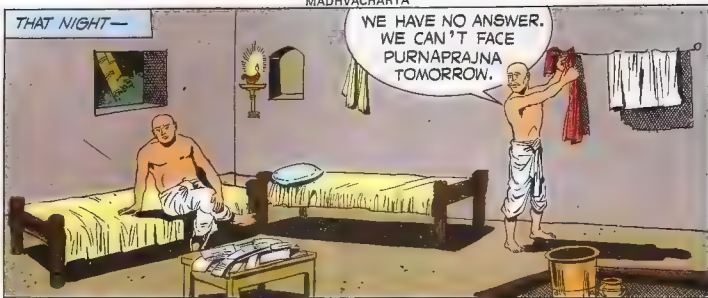
YOU ARE
WELCOME. I HAVE
THE RIGHT PERSON
FOR YOU.

DURING THE DISPUTATION, PURNAPRAJNA'S SHARP INTELLECT ASTOUNDED THE
VISITING SCHOLARS.

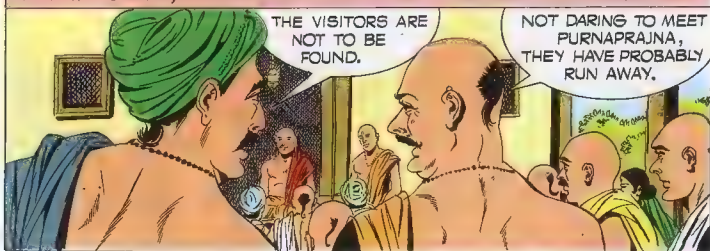
I WILL ANSWER
YOU TOMORROW.

TAKE YOUR
OWN TIME.

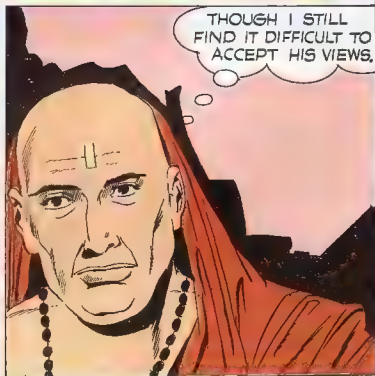
THAT NIGHT—



THE NEXT MORNING, AS THE ASSEMBLY WAITED FOR THE SCHOLARS TO APPEAR—



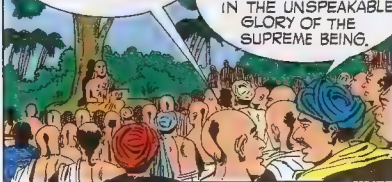
ACHYUTA PRAJNA'S FACE BEAMED WITH SATISFACTION AND PRIDE. LATER—



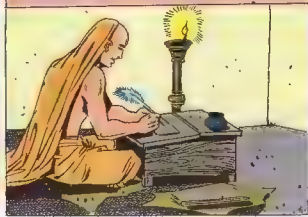
ANANDATIRTHA NOW BEGAN TO EXPOUND THE SCRIPTURES TO LARGE AUDIENCES.

HIS INTERPRETATIONS ARE ALWAYS TO THE POINT AND REFRESHINGLY ORIGINAL.

AND CONVINCING TOO. AFTER HEARING HIM SPEAK, I CAN NOT BUT BELIEVE IN THE UNSPEAKABLE GLORY OF THE SUPREME BEING.



IT WAS AROUND THIS PERIOD THAT MADHVACHARYA, AS ANANDATIRTHA CAME TO BE KNOWN, BEGAN WRITING HIS FAMOUS COMMENTARY ON THE BHAGAWAD GITA*AND...



... WENT ON A PILGRIMAGE TO SOUTH INDIA, HOLDING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SCHOLARS AT VARIOUS CENTRES OF LEARNING LIKE SRIRANGAM AND KANYAKUMARI. THOUGH MANY OF THEM WERE INITIALLY SCEPTICAL ABOUT HIS THEORIES, THEY ULTIMATELY BECAME HIS FOLLOWERS AND ADMIRERS.

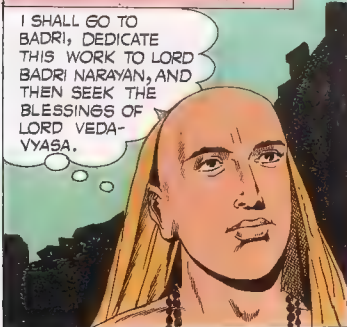
HIS LOGIC IS IMPECCABLE.



TO HEAR HIM SPEAK IS AN INTELLECTUAL TREAT.

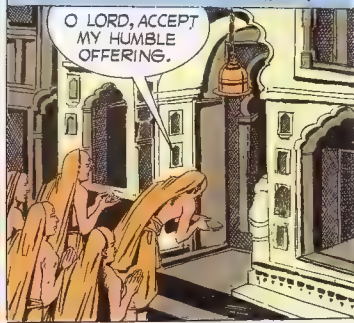
AS SOON AS HE COMPLETED HIS COMMENTARY ON THE GITA—

I SHALL GO TO BADRI, DEDICATE THIS WORK TO LORD BADRI NARAYAN, AND THEN SEEK THE BLESSINGS OF LORD VEDAVYASA.

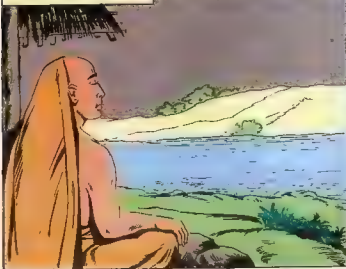


AFTER A LONG JOURNEY, MADHVA REACHED BADRI WITH HIS DISCIPLES.

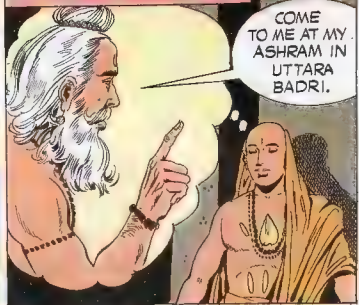
O LORD, ACCEPT MY HUMBLE OFFERING.



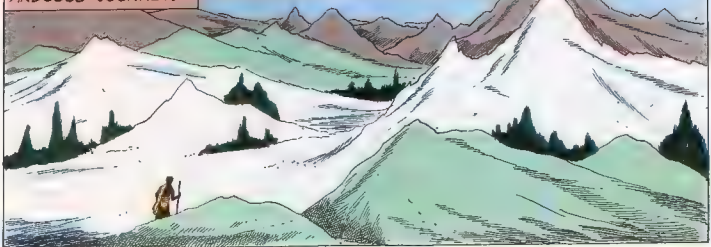
HE THEN TOOK A VOW OF SILENCE, AND FASTED AND PRAYED FOR A CALL FROM LORD VEDAVYASA.



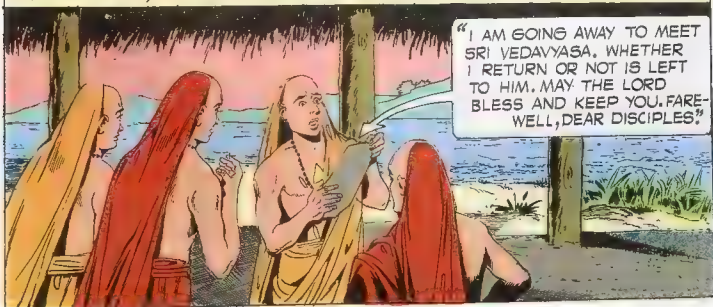
FORTY-EIGHT DAYS LATER—



LEAVING A MESSAGE FOR HIS DISCIPLES, HE STARTED OUT ALONE ON THE ARDUOUS JOURNEY.

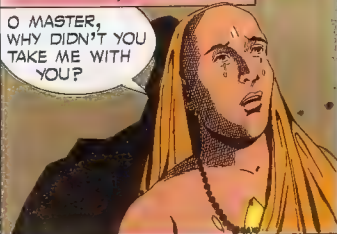


A LITTLE LATER, THE DISCIPLES FOUND THE MESSAGE. ONE OF THEM READ IT OUT.

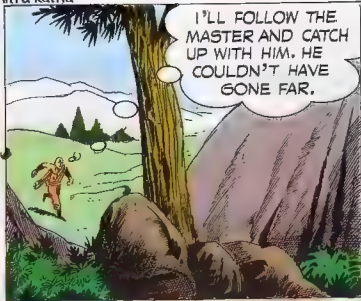


SATYATIRTHA, A DISCIPLE WHO COULD NOT BEAR TO BE SEPARATED FROM THE ACHARYA, BROKE DOWN.

O MASTER, WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE ME WITH YOU?

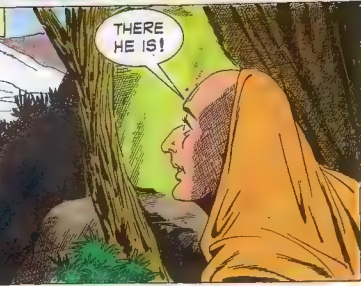
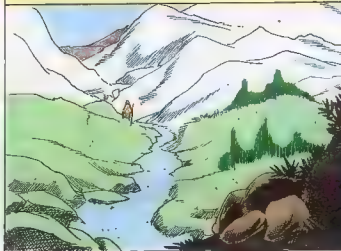


I'LL FOLLOW THE MASTER AND CATCH UP WITH HIM. HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE FAR.

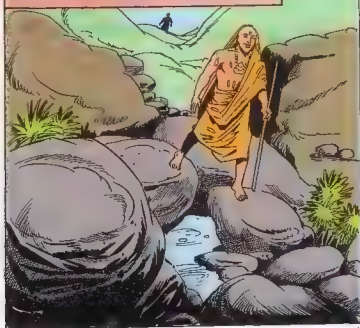


SATYATIRTHA RAN BLINDLY, AT LAST —

THERE HE IS!



MADHVACHARYA MOVED FROM ROCK TO ROCK WITH EASE AND GRACE.



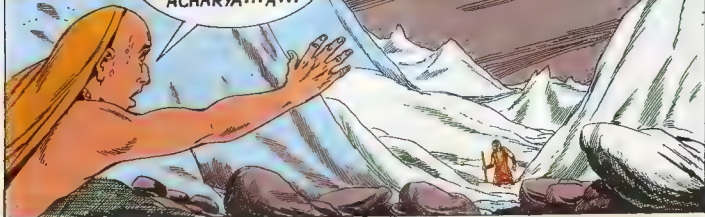
SATYATIRTHA FOLLOWED HIM WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY. TOWARDS EVENING, HE WAS EXHAUSTED.

NO, I CAN'T GO A STEP FARTHER. NOR CAN I RETURN. I AM LOST.

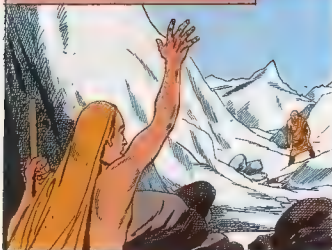


AT THAT MOMENT, THE ACHARYA HAPPENED TO LOOK BACK. HE SAW POOR SATYATIRTHA STRUGGLING FAR AWAY, TO FOLLOW HIM.

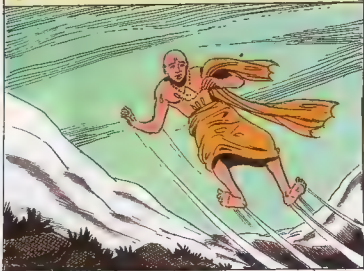
ACHARYA...A...



THE ACHARYA WAVED HIS POWERFUL HAND, SIGNALLING SATYATIRTHA TO GO BACK TO THE ASHRAM.

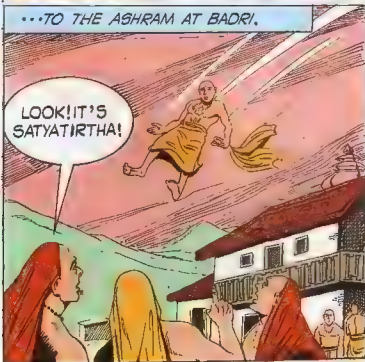


SATYATIRTHA FELT HIMSELF BEING LIFTED BY A POWERFUL GUST OF WIND...

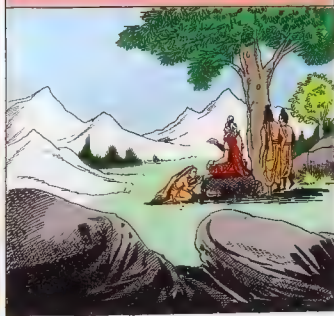


...TO THE ASHRAM AT BADRI.

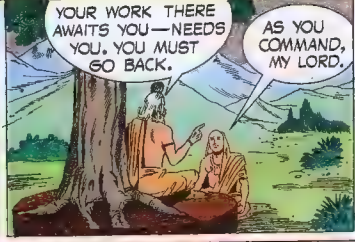
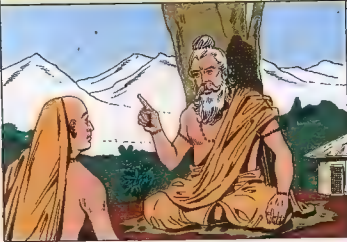
LOOK! IT'S SATYATIRTHA!



MADHVACHARYA MEANWHILE HAD REACHED VEDAVYASA'S ASHRAM.



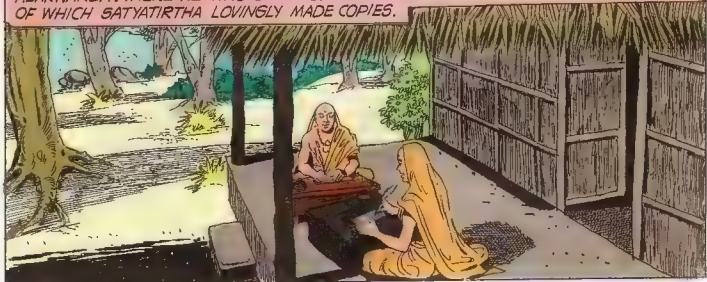
MONTHS PASSED. MADHVACHARYA WHO RECEIVED INSTRUCTION FROM VEDAVYASA DID NOT WANT TO GO BACK TO THE WORLD HE HAD LEFT BEHIND. BUT —



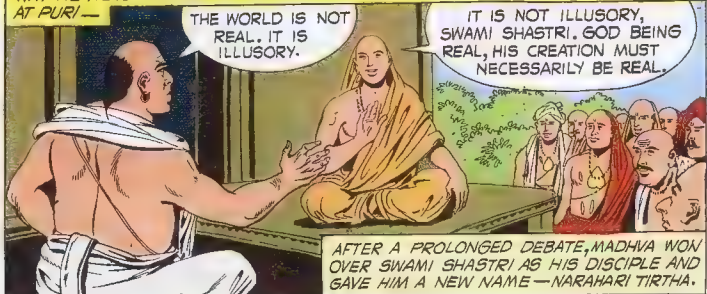
YOUR WORK THERE AWAITS YOU — NEEDS YOU. YOU MUST GO BACK.

AS YOU COMMAND, MY LORD.

MADHYA RETURNED *TO BADRI AND HIS DISCIPLES ON THE BANK OF THE HOLY ALAKNANDA. THERE HE WROTE HIS COMMENTARY ON THE BRAHMA SUTRAS ⁵ OF WHICH SATYATIRTHA LOVINGLY MADE COPIES.



MADHVACHARYA THEN SET OUT ON HIS RETURN JOURNEY TO UDUPI. ON THE WAY HE HELD PHILOSOPHICAL DEBATES WITH LEARNED SCHOLARS, AT PURI —



THE WORLD IS NOT REAL. IT IS ILLUSORY.

IT IS NOT ILLUSORY, SWAMI SHASTRI. GOD BEING REAL, HIS CREATION MUST NECESSARILY BE REAL.

AFTER A PROLONGED DEBATE, MADHYA WON OVER SWAMI SHASTRI AS HIS DISCIPLE AND GAVE HIM A NEW NAME — NARAHARI TIRTHA.

* HE RECEIVED FROM VEDAVYASA EIGHT HANDFULS OF ⁵ APHORISMS COMPOSED BY VEDAVYASA THE SACRED SOIL OF UTTARA BADRI

AT PRATIGHTHANA, HE MET SHOBANA BHAT, A RENOWNED SCHOLAR.

TO ACHIEVE SALVATION,
ONE MUST RENOUNCE ACTION.
IT IS ACTION THAT BRINGS
ABOUT THE CYCLE OF
BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

NO. WHAT IS TO BE
GIVEN UP IS THE DESIRE
FOR THE FRUITS OF
ACTION, NOT ACTION
ITSELF.

THE DEBATE LASTED FOR SEVERAL DAYS. IN THE END, SHOBANA BHAT*ACCEPTED MADHVA AS HIS SPIRITUAL GUIDE.

BUT MADHVA'S GREATEST CONQUEST WAS HIS OWN MASTER — ACHYUTA PRAJNA — AT UDUPI.

MADHVA, AFTER STUDYING
YOUR WORKS AND LISTENING
TO YOU, I AM CONVINCED THAT
YOURS IS THE RIGHT
PATH.

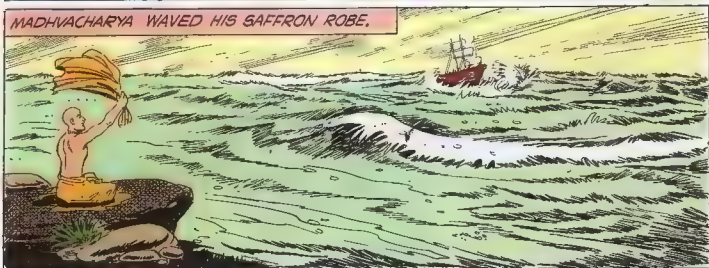
AT UDUPI, MADHVA USED TO GO TO THE SEA-SHORE EVERY MORNING, TO MEDITATE. ONE DAY A CARGO BOAT FROM DWARAKA WAS BEING MERCILESSLY TOSSED ABOUT ON THE TURBULENT SEA.

THE SHIP SEEMS
TO BE IN TROUBLE!

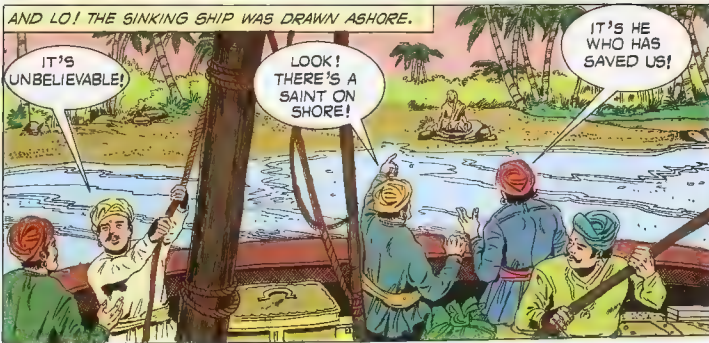
* MADHVACHARYA CONFERRED ON HIM A NEW NAME — PADMANABHA TIRTHA.

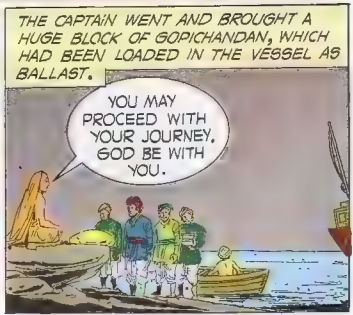
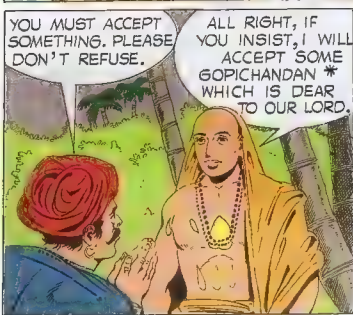
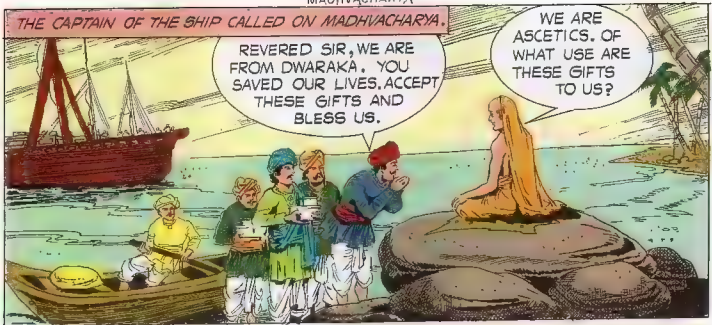


MADHVACHARYA WAVED HIS SAFFRON ROBE.

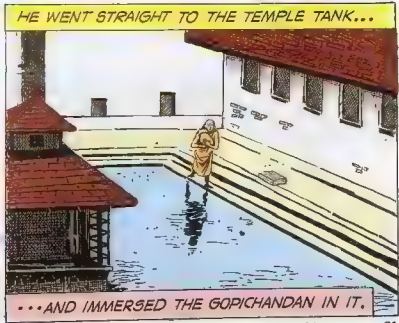
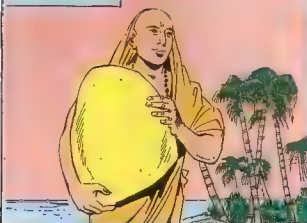


AND LO! THE SINKING SHIP WAS DRAWN ASHORE.





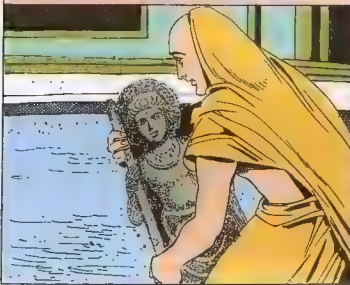
FROM THE SHORE TO THE ANANTE-SHVARA TEMPLE, MADHVACHARYA CARRIED THE GOPICHANDAN SINGING THE GLORY OF GOD ALL THE WHILE.



THE NEXT MOMENT, A BEAUTIFUL IDOL OF KRISHNA ROSE TO THE SURFACE.



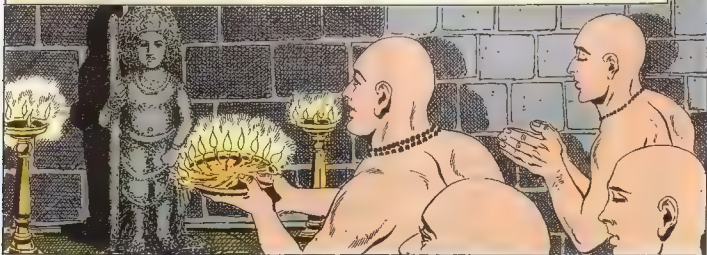
MADHVACHARYA LIFTED THE IDOL ...



... AND LOVINGLY CARRIED IT INTO HIS MUTT.



LATER, MADHVACHARYA HAD A SHRINE BUILT FOR THE LORD IN A PORTION OF HIS MUTT WHERE THE IDOL WAS CONSECRATED WITH DUE CEREMONY.



MADHVACHARYA, WHO DID NOT UPHOLD VIOLENCE, WAS UNHAPPY ABOUT THE PRACTICE OF KILLING ANIMALS AT THE TIME OF RITUAL SACRIFICES.

THERE IS NO NEED TO KILL LIVE ANIMALS. IMAGES MADE OF FLOUR COULD BE USED INSTEAD.

LATER, HIS BROTHER REPORTED TO MADHVACHARYA.

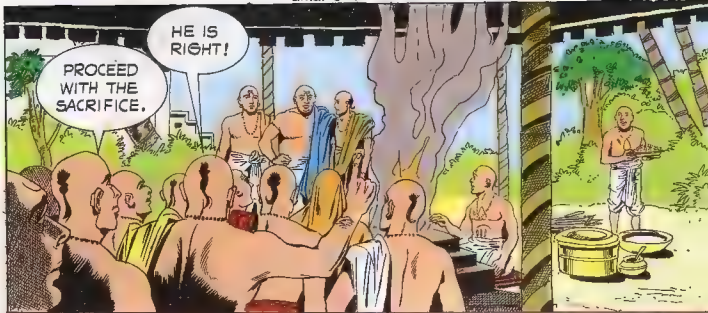
NO ONE IS PREPARED TO USE IMAGES. THEY CONTINUE TO KILL ANIMALS.

SOME ONE SHOULD TAKE THE LEAD. WHY DON'T YOU?

WHEN MADHVACHARYA'S BROTHER DID SO, ORTHODOX BRAHMAN'S INVADED THE SACRIFICIAL SITE.

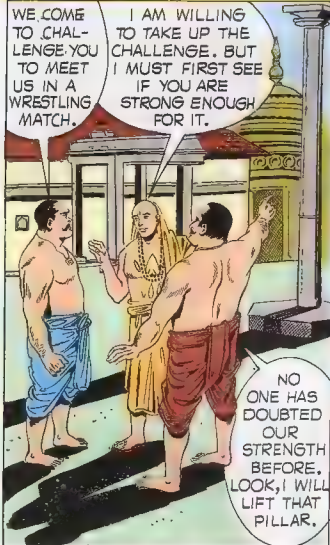
STOP IT AT ONCE! THIS PRACTICE IS AGAINST THE SCRIPTURES.

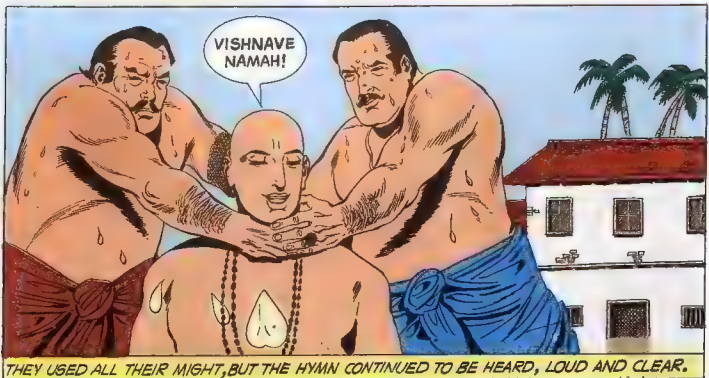
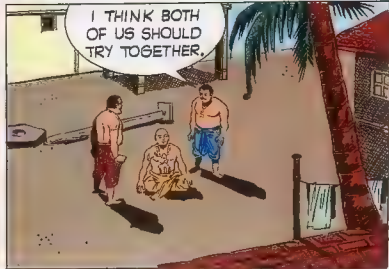
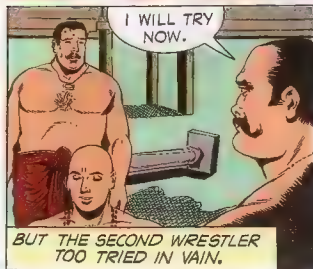
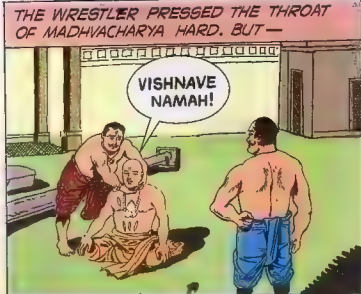
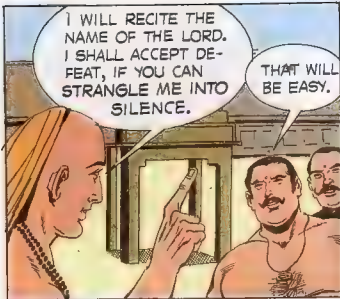
YOU ARE MISTAKEN. I AM ONLY REVIVING AN OLD CUSTOM WHICH HAS THE SANCTION OF THE SCRIPTURES. MOREOVER, NO PRACTICE WHICH UPHOLDS THE SANCTITY OF LIFE COULD BE AGAINST THE SCRIPTURES.

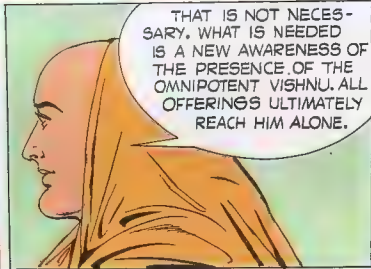
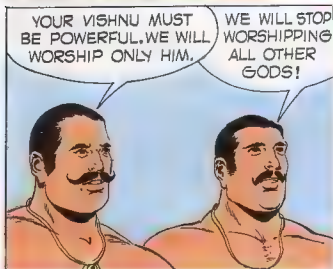
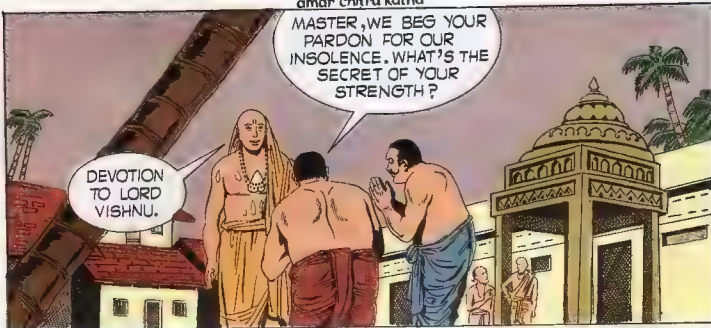


THE ORTHODOX BRAHMANS HAD TO WITHDRAW. LATER, MORE AND MORE BRAHMANS FOLLOWED THE EXAMPLE SET BY MADHVACHARYA'S BROTHER.

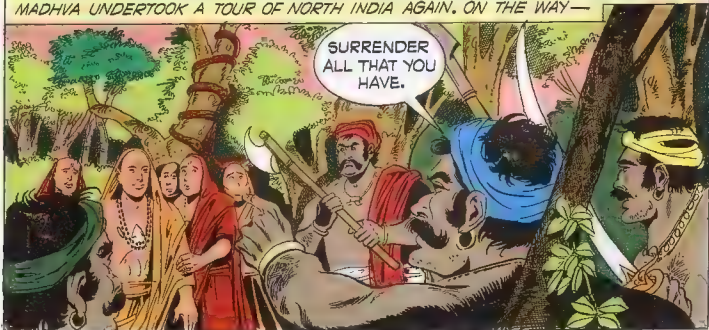
THOUGH KNOWN MAINLY FOR HIS POWERFUL INTELLECT, THE ACHARYA WAS ALSO FAMED FOR HIS IMMENSE PHYSICAL STRENGTH. ONCE, TWO WRESTLERS CAME TO HIM.



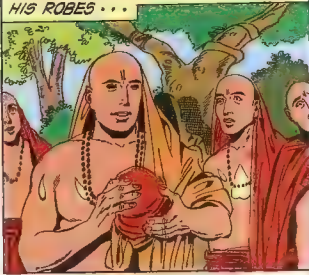




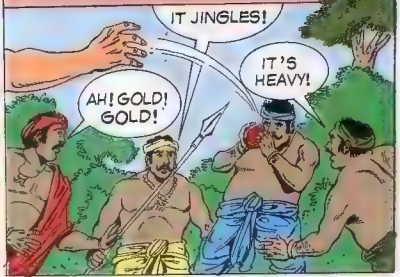
TO SPREAD HIS MESSAGE OF SELFLESS ACTION AND LOVING DEVOTION TO GOD, MADHVA UNDERTOOK A TOUR OF NORTH INDIA AGAIN. ON THE WAY —



MADHVACHARYA ROLLED UP ONE OF HIS ROBES ...



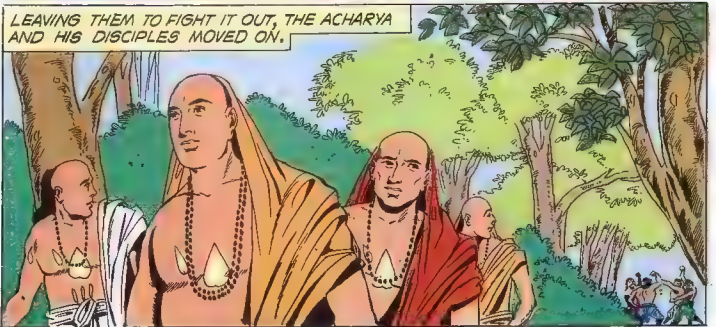
... AND THREW IT IN THEIR MIDST.



IN A MINUTE THERE WAS A SCRAMBLE FOR THE BUNDLE.



LEAVING THEM TO FIGHT IT OUT, THE ACHARYA AND HIS DISCIPLES MOVED ON.



DAYS LATER, WHEN THEY REACHED THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE GANGA —

MASTER, SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE WRONG HERE. WHY IS THE PLACE DESERTED? WHY ARE THE BOATS IDLE?

LET'S QUESTION THE BOATMAN.

THEY WALKED UP TO HIM —

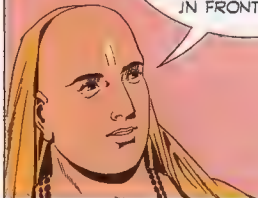
YOU'D BETTER GO BACK, SIR. WE DARE NOT TAKE ANYONE ACROSS! THE SULTAN'S ORDERS! HE'S CAMPING ON THE OTHER SIDE WITH HIS ARMY.

THE DISCIPLES WERE SORELY DISAPPOINTED. MADHVACHARYA READ THEIR THOUGHTS.

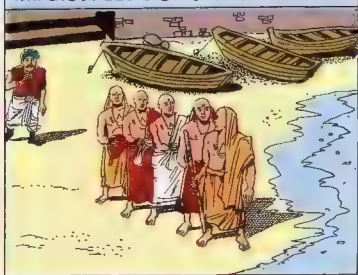
WHAT! HAVE WE COME ALL THIS WAY FOR NOTHING?

THIS MEANS WE WILL HAVE TO GO BACK WITHOUT FULFILLING OUR MISSION.

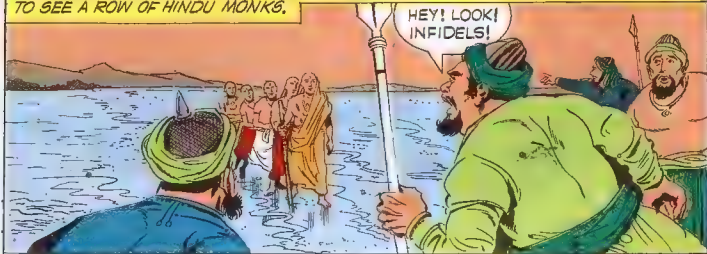
I WILL TAKE YOU ACROSS
THE RIVER. FORM
A SINGLE FILE AND
HOLD ON TO THE WAIST
CLOTH OF THE ONE
IN FRONT OF YOU.



THE DISCIPLES DID AS THEY WERE TOLD.



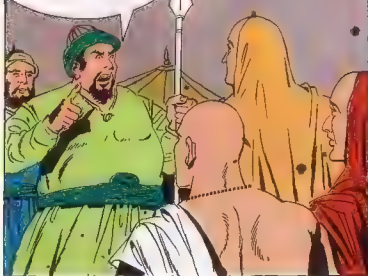
THE NEXT MOMENT, THE SULTAN'S MEN ON THE OTHER BANK WERE SHOCKED
TO SEE A ROW OF HINDU MONKS.



HEY! LOOK!
INFIDELS!

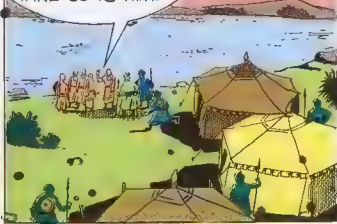
THEY RUSHED FORWARD.

GO BACK, BEFORE
WE MAKE MINCE-
MEAT OF YOU.



THE ACHARYA STOOD CALM, SERENE
AND UNPERTURBED.

WE HAVE COME TO
SEE YOUR RULER.
BE QUIET, BEHAVE
YOURSELVES AND
TAKE US TO HIM.



HEARING THE NOISE OUTSIDE, THE SULTAN HIMSELF CAME OUT.

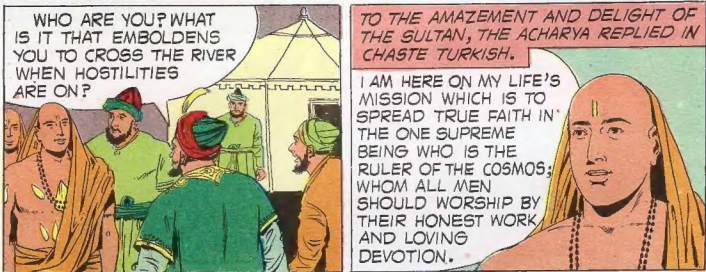
WHAT DIGNITY! HE GLOWS WITH SPIRITUAL INSIGHT. WHAT COULD HE WANT HERE?



WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS IT THAT EMBOLDENS YOU TO CROSS THE RIVER WHEN HOSTILITIES ARE ON?

TO THE AMAZEMENT AND DELIGHT OF THE SULTAN, THE ACHARYA REPLIED IN CHASTE TURKISH.

I AM HERE ON MY LIFE'S MISSION WHICH IS TO SPREAD TRUE FAITH IN THE ONE SUPREME BEING WHO IS THE RULER OF THE COSMOS; WHOM ALL MEN SHOULD WORSHIP BY THEIR HONEST WORK AND LOVING DEVOTION.

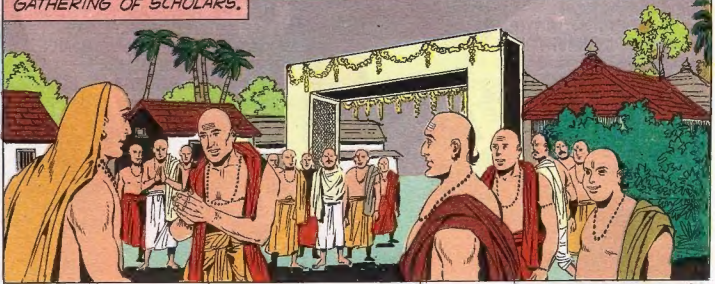


THE SULTAN WAS IMPRESSED.

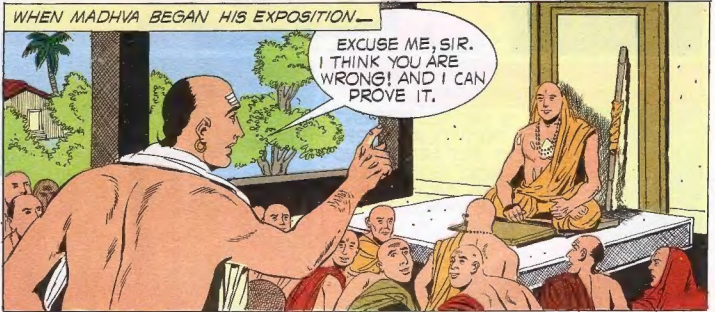
I BEG YOUR PARDON FOR THE INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO YOU. YOU MAY PROCEED WITH YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH MY TERRITORY. NO ONE WILL HARM YOU.



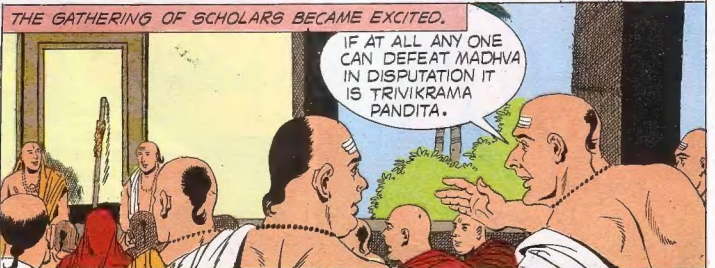
AFTER WINNING MANY FOLLOWERS IN PLACES LIKE KASHI, GAYA AND PURI, MADHVA RETURNED TO THE SOUTH. AT KUDIL* HE WAS RECEIVED BY A LARGE GATHERING OF SCHOLARS.



WHEN MADHVA BEGAN HIS EXPOSITION —



THE GATHERING OF SCHOLARS BECAME EXCITED.

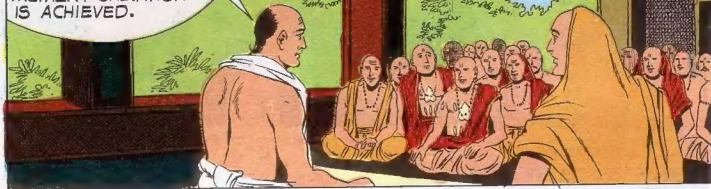


TRIVIKRAMA PANDITA WAS A DOYEN AMONG THE PHILOSOPHERS OF THE TIME.

THE SCHOLARS HEARD THE DISPUTATION WITH RAPT ATTENTION.

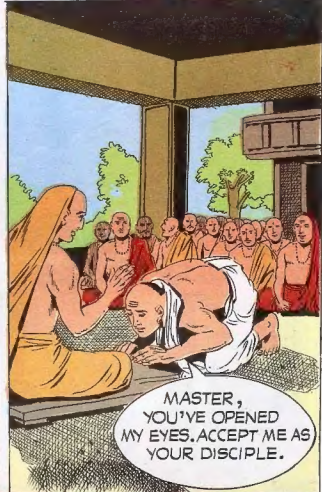
NEITHER ACTION NOR DEVOTION IS THE PATHWAY TO SALVATION. WHEN ONE REALISES THAT THE INDIVIDUAL SELF AND THE SUPREME SELF ARE ONE AND THE SAME, THAT VERY MOMENT SALVATION IS ACHIEVED.

HOW COULD THE ALL POWERFUL, ALL KNOWING, BLISSFUL, SUPREME SELF BE THE SAME AS INDIVIDUAL SELVES WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO IGNORANCE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES?



THE GREATEST DEBATE OF THE TIME CONTINUED FOR FIFTEEN DAYS.

GOD IS THE INDEPENDENT REALITY. INDIVIDUALS ARE REAL TOO BUT ARE DEPENDENT ON GOD. INDIVIDUALS CAN ATTAIN SALVATION ONLY THROUGH LOVING DEVOTION TO GOD AND BY HIS GRACE.



MASTER, YOU'VE OPENED MY EYES. ACCEPT ME AS YOUR DISCIPLE.

EVEN TO THIS DAY THERE ARE MILLIONS OF FOLLOWERS OF MADHVA ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.



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Madhva freed the concept of Bhakti from the clutches of blind faith and placed it in its right perspective as informed faith in, and love of God, both based on a right understanding of his glory. He also rescued it from the pitfalls of sentimentalism, eroticism and other maladies.

Madhva lived a robust life of 79 years. He was a prolific writer in Sanskrit prose and verse. He wrote thirty-nine works which are collectively known as Sarvamula. These include commentaries on Rig Veda, Upanishads, Gita, Brahmasutras, Mahabharata, Bhagawat and critical works on logic and metaphysics, rituals and *sadachara* (right conduct). He also wrote a number of devotional hymns.

The Chaitanya Sampradaya of Bengal is deeply indebted to Madhva's philosophy in many respects. It includes in its *guruparampara* Madhva and his successors, Jayatirtha and Vyasatirtha. The followers of Madhva are found in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa and Uttar Pradesh.

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